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WYOMING LABOR FORCE TRENDS

Vol. 27 No. 4 A Monthly Newsletter Published in Cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics April, 1990

Trend Setters

	Jan'90	Feb'90
Wyoming		
Labor Force	238,782	239,830
Employment	222,766	224,127
Unemployment	16,016	15,703
Rate (Raw)	6.7	6.5
Rate (S.A.)	5.4	5.3
Mining Hourly Wage	$15.14	$15.09
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	44.6	43.0
USA		
Rate (S.A.)	5.3	5.3
Mining Hourly Wage	$13.27	$13.33
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	43.2	43.0
Consumer Price Index		
All Urban (1982-1984 = 100)		
U.S. City Avg.	127.4	128.0
Year Change(U.S.)	+5.2	+5.3

S.A.-Seasonally Adjusted

In This Issue of Trends:

Changes in Family Spending in U.S.

Family Trends

Sweetwater County

Teton County

U.S. Unemployment Stuck at 5.3 Percent

For the ninth month in a row, since last July, the national seasonally adjusted unemployment rate registered 5.3 percent in February. This was also the national average for 1989, down from 5.5 and 6.2 percent in 1988 and 1987. The February rate represents almost 6.6 million jobseekers across the nation.

White adult men and women had the lowest unemployment, at 4.1 percent. The white unemployment rate for all workers of 4.6 percent compared to 7.8 percent for hispanics, and 10.5 percent for blacks across the nation.

Unemployment for auto workers, which reached 20 percent in January because of temporary plant shutdowns, fell beck to eight percent in February.

National Employment Gains Service Driven

The so called "service-producing" industries continued to drive the national economy, accounting for virtually all the 2.5 million annual worker gain, as measured by the establishment survey. Manufacturing continued to slide, posting a 193,000 job loss over the year.

On the other side of the coin, services and trade posted 1.8 million new workers as compared to last year. Smaller gains were registered in government, up 353,000; transportation and utilities, up 204,000; and finance, insurance, and real estate, up 149,000.

The total number of employed workers in the U.S. in February, as measured by the household survey, was 118.0 million, up annually 1.3 million, or 1.1 percent.

Wyoming Unemployment Same as Nation

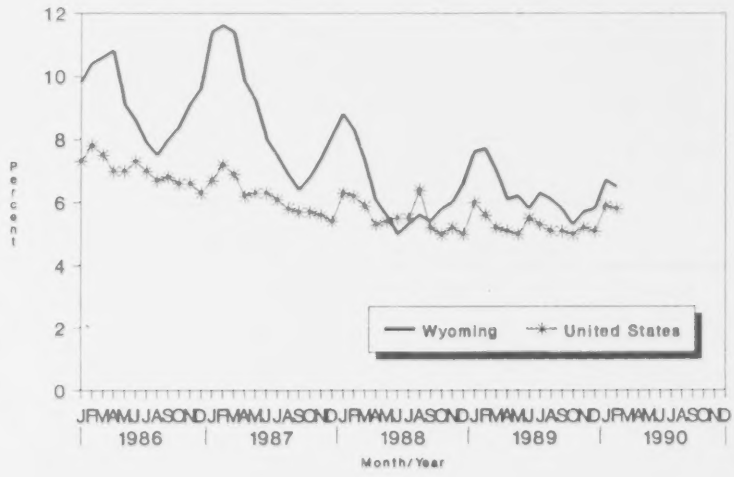
Statewide unemployment, seasonally adjusted, dropped to 5.3 percent in February, identical to the national rate. However, Cowboy state annual average unemployment at 6.3 percent last year was a full percentage point above the national rate.

Unadjusted unemployment declined seasonally in February to 6.5 percent, well below the 7.7 percent of a year ago. Historically, unadjusted unemployment should continue to decline until the end of summer then go back up as weather related layoffs occur.

County Unemployment Follows State Trend

All but three counties in the state indicated lower unemployment than a year ago. Teton and Albany counties, the Jackson and Laramie areas, continued to register the state's lowest jobless rates at 2.2 and 4.0 percent. Big Horn and Fremont counties posted

Unemployment Rate, Wyoming and the U.S.
Civilian Unadjusted
1986 - 1990


12
10
8
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Percent
Wyoming
United States
J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D
1986
1987
1988
1989
1990
Month/Year

the highest unemployment in February, both at 9.3 percent. The most populated areas, Laramie and Natrona counties, had unemployment of 5.6 and 7.2 percent, respectively.

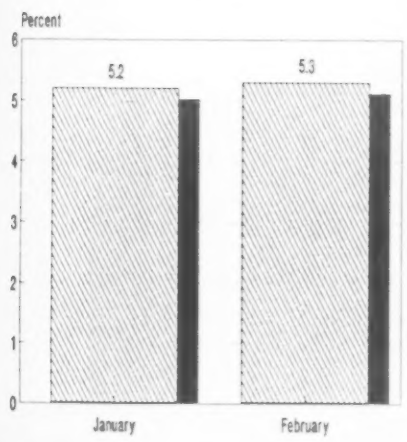
Services and Trade Lead Wyoming Job Growth

Across the state, like the nation, substantial workers gains continued in services, up 1,700; retail trade, up 1,500; local government, up 500; and mining up, 400. Smaller yearly worker gains were registered in federal government and manufacturing, up 300; construction up 200; and transportation and public utilities, up 100. State government and finance, insurance, and real estate indicated the only industrial annual declines of 100 workers each.

Cheyenne and Laramie Indicate High Labor Force Growth

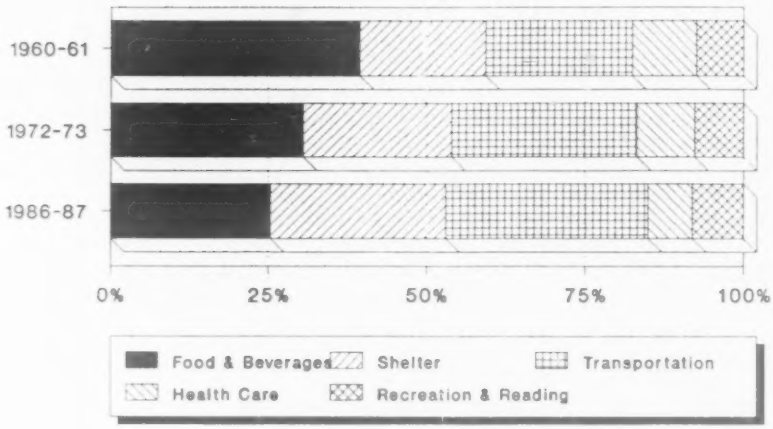
The Cheyenne area, Laramie County, indicated the greatest annual labor force gain in absolute numbers, about 1,300. Albany County came in second, followed by Teton and Sheridan counties, with gains of 1,094, 657, and 621, respectively.

Consumer Price Index
Annual Percent Change
All Urban



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Consumption Expenditures
1960-61 to 1986-87



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Changes in Family Spending in U.S.

In the March, 1990 issue of the *Monthly Labor Review*, Eva Jacobs and Stephanie Shipp of the Bureau of Labor Statistics outline changes in family spending in the U.S. They note that food as a percent of total expenditures has declined from 46 percent of total expenditures in 1901 to 19 percent of total current consumption. Within the food budget, however, spending for food away from home has increased. In addition, Jacobs and Shipp say homeownership has increased dramatically, as have outlays associated with owning a home. Data from a 1901 survey show that only 19 percent of the workers' families owned a home, compared with 44 percent in 1950 and 56 percent in 1986-87.

The invention of the automobile has contributed dramatically to changes in the lifestyle of the American family. Outlays for transportation now account for 26 percent of current consumption-a significant rise from 1901, when they were included in the "other purposes" (miscellaneous) category, according to Jacobs and Shipp. They say that advances in health care have had a revolutionary effect on households. The 1901 survey indicated that families allocated three percent of their spending to "sickness and death," that is medical care and funeral expenses. Even as family size has declined over time, health care expenditures for workers' families have increased. Finally, Jacobs and Shipp report that the budget share allocated for entertainment and reading has increased as the workday and workweek became shorter and recreational activities became accessible to more people.

Family Trends

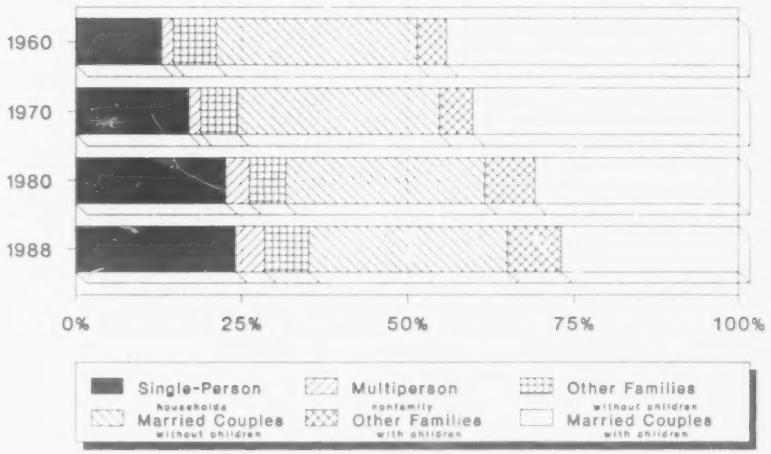
James R. Wetzel, Director of the Center for Demographic Studies at the U.S. Census Bureau, lists several dramatic secular changes in the family that are observable in most subgroups of the Nation's population. Among the most visible of those changes:

- Today, relatively fewer of us are living in family households, and particularly in "traditional" nuclear families, than did so earlier in the 20th century. The trend toward living in nonfamily households (usually alone) is associated with widowhood at older ages, the increased incidence of divorce among adults of all ages, and delayed marriage among young adults.

- Women in the United States are bearing fewer children during their lives, and they are doing so later in their reproductive years. Consequently, the average size of families today is smaller than it has ever been before. The Nation's total fertility rate-the number of children the average woman would be expected to bear in her lifetime-has been below the replacement level since 1972.
- Those who live in family households-still a very substantial minority of the population-live in less stable, more heterogeneous families than did earlier generations. Kinship networks now often include former spouses and former in-laws, stepchildren. and, with increased life expectancy, more generations than was typical earlier in this century.
- Finally, economic roles within the family have shifted significantly in the post-World War II years. In particular, regardless of the presence of children, including infants, wives now are more likely to work outside the home than to work solely as homemakers.

Composition of American Households

Selected Years, 1960-88



Source: Bureau of the Census

SWEETWATER, WYOMING

Sweetwater County's 1987 population of 44,800 ranked third in the state.

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME - In 1987, Sweetwater had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of $12,961. This PCPI ranked sixth in the state, and was 102 percent of the state average ($12,706) and 84 percent of the national average ($15,484). In 1977, Sweetwater's PCPI of 8,551 ranked fifth in the state. The average annual growth rate of PCPI over the past 10 years was 4.2 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 5.0 percent and for the nation was 7.8 percent.

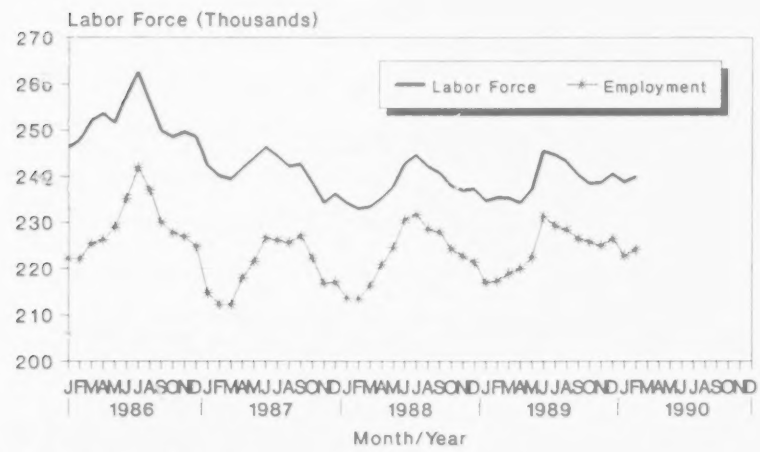
TETON, WYOMING

Teton County's 1987 population of 11,100 ranked 15th in the state.

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME - In 1987, Teton had a PCPI of $19,207. This PCPI ranked first in the state, and was 151 percent of the state average and 124 percent of the national average. In 1977, Teton's PCPI of $10,261 ranked second in the state. The average annual growth rate of PCPI over the past 10 years was 6.5 percent.

Wyoming Labor Force and Employment

1986 - 1990


Labor Force (Thousands)
270
260
250
240
230
220
210
200
Labor Force
Employment
J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D
1986
1987
1988
1989
1990
Month/Year

Scale does not begin at zero.
Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics, BLS and Research & Analysis.

Consumer Price Index

(1982-1984 = 100)
All Urban

	Feb. 1990	Annual % change
All Items	128.0	5.3
Food & Beverage	130.9	6.7
Housing	126.1	4.1
Entertainment	130.4	4.9
Apparel & Upkeep	120.4	4.4
Transportation	117.1	4.9
Medical	157.5	8.5

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 1

WYOMING
ECONOMIC INDICATORS

INDUSTRY	FEBRUARY 1990 [1]	JANUARY 1990 [2]	FEBRUARY 1989 [1]	Percent Change From A Month Ago	Percent Change From A Year Ago
WYOMING EMPLOYMENT DATA					
Total Civilian Labor Force	239,830	238,782	235,361	0.4	1.9
Unemployment	15,703	16,016	18,049	-2.0	-13.0
Employed Labor Force	224,127	222,766	217,312	0.6	3.1
a. Covered Employment (Under Wyo. UI Law) [3]	169,800	169,900	165,812	-0.1	2.4
b. Agriculture	9,643	10,834	10,875	-11.0	-11.3
Total Unemployment Rate (Wyo.) Seasonally Adjusted*	6.5% 5.3%*	6.7% 5.4%*	7.7% 6.2%*	XXX	XXX
Total Unemployment Rate (U.S.) Seas. Adjusted*	5.8% 5.3%*	5.9% 5.3%*	5.6% 5.2%*	XXX	XXX
Insured Unemployment Rate (Wyo.)	2.9%	2.5%	3.7%	XXX	XXX
HOURS & EARNING [4]					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 648.87	$ 675.24	$ 669.77	-3.9	-3.1
Average Weekly Hours	43.0	44.6	43.1	-3.6	-0.2
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 15.09	$ 15.14	$ 15.54	-0.3	-2.9
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE					
Claims Filed in Local Office	23,008	25,976	28,651	-11.4	-19.7
a. Initial	2,885	3,921	3,176	-26.4	-9.2
Weeks Compensated	18,052	18,210	22,309	-0.9	-19.1
Total Amount Benefits Paid	$ 2,818,371	$ 2,858,166	$ 3,542,951	-1.4	-20.5
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$ 155.77	$ 156.60	$ 157.95	-0.5	-1.4
EMPLOYMENT SERVICES					
Total Applications Received During Month	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	XXX	XXX
Total Openings Received	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	XXX	XXX
Individual Placements	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	XXX	XXX
Placement Transactions	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	XXX	XXX
UNITED STATES DATA					
HOURS & EARNING [4]					
Mining					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 573.19	$ 573.26	$ 551.27	0.0	4.0
Average Weekly Hours	43.0	43.2	41.7	-0.5	3.1
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 13.33	$ 13.27	$ 13.22	0.5	0.8
PRICE INDEXES					
Consumer Price Index 1982-84=100	128.0	127.4	121.6	0.5	5.3
Producer Prices, All Commodities 1982-84=100	114.9	111.4	110.8	3.1	3.7
Food and Beverage 1982-84=100	130.9	130.0	122.7	0.7	6.7

1 Preliminary. 2 Revised. 3 Not benchmarked to current population survey. 4 Estimates include all full- and part-time wage and salary workers in non-agricultural establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employeds, domestic servants, and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. 5 Estimate based on historical trends.

WYOMING
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT

TABLE 2

(Prepared in cooperation with U S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

	LABOR FORCE					UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
COUNTY	FEB 1990	JAN 1990	FEB 1989	% CHANGE JAN-FEB	% CHANGE FEB-FEB	FEB 1990	JAN 1990	FEB 1989	FEB. 1990	JAN. 1990	FEB. 1989
Statewide	239,830	238,782	235,361	0.4	1.9	15,703	16,016	18,049	6.5	6.7	7.7
Statewide - Seasonally Adjusted									5.3	5.4	6.2
Albany	17,211	16,631	16,117	3.5	6.8	690	648	710	4.0	3.9	4.4
Big Horn	5,232	5,217	5,142	0.3	1.8	486	413	564	9.3	7.9	11.0
Campbell	15,791	15,561	15,659	1.5	0.8	1,147	1,031	1,414	7.3	6.6	9.0
Carbon	7,859	7,901	7,751	-0.5	1.4	543	593	715	6.9	7.5	9.2
Converse	5,039	5,110	5,509	-1.4	-8.5	447	490	568	8.9	9.6	10.3
Crook	2,560	2,620	2,787	-2.3	-8.1	165	179	241	6.4	6.8	8.6
Fremont	16,651	16,561	16,420	0.5	1.4	1,548	1,618	1,841	9.3	9.8	11.2
Goshen	6,333	6,458	6,192	-1.9	2.3	465	391	410	7.3	6.1	6.6
Hot Springs	2,901	2,895	2,775	0.2	4.5	130	130	143	4.5	4.5	5.2
Johnson	3,538	3,521	3,382	0.5	4.6	276	236	278	7.8	6.7	8.2
Laramie	38,755	38,522	37,474	0.6	3.4	2,154	2,509	2,258	5.6	6.5	6.0
Lincoln	5,493	5,539	5,701	-0.8	-3.6	491	490	605	8.9	8.8	10.6
Natrona	31,225	31,060	30,793	0.5	1.4	2,239	2,243	2,433	7.2	7.2	7.9
Niobrara	1,497	1,506	1,479	-0.6	1.2	111	74	86	7.4	4.9	5.8
Park	12,974	13,012	12,544	-0.3	3.4	838	852	923	6.5	6.5	7.4
Platte	4,209	4,178	4,418	0.7	-4.7	284	290	324	6.7	6.9	7.3
Sheridan	13,124	13,046	12,503	0.6	5.0	871	836	785	6.6	6.4	6.3
Sublette	2,846	2,889	2,649	-1.5	7.4	174	124	221	6.1	4.3	8.3
Sweetwater	19,157	18,856	19,032	1.6	0.7	1,166	1,271	1,561	6.1	6.7	8.2
Teton	10,275	10,182	9,618	0.9	6.8	224	292	298	2.2	2.9	3.1
Uinta	9,497	9,479	9,639	0.2	-1.5	734	716	975	7.7	7.6	10.1
Washakie	4,335	4,556	4,388	-4.9	-1.2	306	343	408	7.1	7.5	9.3
Weston	3,329	3,484	3,389	-4.4	-1.8	215	250	289	6.5	7.2	8.5
United States									5.8	5.9	5.6
United States - Seasonally Adjusted									5.3	5.3	5.2

The ESC wishes to state that the data contained in this table are only estimates. The date for the current month is a preliminary estimate and will be revised next month, and revised again in about a year. The data contained in this table includes updated procedures mandated by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. In addition, the 1989 data has been benchmarked to the Current Population Survey as conducted in Wyoming.

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING

Table 3

(Prepared in Cooperation with U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT IN THOUSANDS FEB 1990 Total	JAN 1990 Total	FEB 1989 Total	% CHANGE IN TOTAL EMP. FEB 1990 to JAN 1990	FEB 1990 to FEB 1989
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	186.2	187.4	181.3	-0.6 %	2.7 %
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	32.8	33.6	31.9	-2.4	2.8
Mining	16.5	16.7	16.1	-1.2	2.5
Coal Mining	4.6	4.6	4.6	0.0	0.0
Oil & Gas Extraction	7.4	7.6	7.3	-2.6	1.4
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.7	3.7	3.5	0.0	5.7
Construction	7.9	8.2	7.7	-3.7	2.6
General Building Contractors	1.3	1.4	1.3	-7.1	0.0
Heavy Construction	2.9	2.8	3.1	3.6	-6.5
Special Trade Construction	3.7	4.0	3.3	-7.5	12.1
Manufacturing	8.4	8.7	8.1	-3.5	3.7
Durable Goods	3.9	3.9	3.7	0.0	5.4
Nondurable Goods	4.5	4.8	4.4	-6.3	2.3
Printing & Publishing	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.2	1.2	1.1	0.0	9.1
TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	153.4	153.8	149.4	-0.3	2.7
Transportation & Public Utilities	13.9	14.1	13.8	-1.4	0.7
Transportation	8.3	8.4	8.1	-1.2	2.5
Railroad Transportation	2.6	2.6	2.7	0.0	-3.7
Trucking & Warehousing	4.2	4.3	4.1	-2.3	2.4
Communications	2.1	2.1	2.1	0.0	0.0
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	3.5	3.5	3.5	0.0	0.0
Trade	42.4	43.1	40.8	-1.6	3.9
Wholesale Trade	7.2	7.3	7.1	-1.4	1.4
Durable Goods	3.8	3.9	3.7	-2.6	2.7
Nondurable Goods	3.4	3.4	3.4	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	35.2	35.8	33.7	-1.7	4.5
Building Materials & Garden Supplies	1.4	1.4	1.2	0.0	16.7
General Merchandise Stores	3.7	3.9	3.3	-5.1	12.1
Food Stores	5.6	5.7	5.2	-1.8	7.7
Automotive Dealers & Service Stations	5.9	5.9	5.6	0.0	5.4
Apparel & Accessory Stores	1.4	1.4	1.3	0.0	7.7
Furniture & Home Furnishings Stores	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.0	11.1
Eating & Drinking Places	12.3	12.5	12.3	-1.6	0.0
Miscellaneous Retail	3.9	4.0	3.9	-2.5	0.0

See footnotes at end of table

Table 3 (Cont.) NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT IN THOUSANDS FEB 1990 [2] Total	JAN 1990 [3] Total	FEB 1989 Total	% CHANGE IN TOTAL EMP. FEB 1990 to JAN 1990	FEB 1990 to FEB 1989
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	7.1	7.2	7.2	-1.4	-1.4
Finance	4.0	4.0	4.1	0.0	-2.4
Insurance	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
Services	34.3	34.4	32.6	-0.3	5.2
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	5.2	5.1	4.9	2.0	6.1
Personal Services	1.7	1.6	1.8	6.3	-5.6
Business Services	3.1	3.2	3.1	-3.1	0.0
Automotive & Miscellaneous Repair Services	2.1	2.2	2.0	-4.6	5.0
Amusements & Recreational Services including Motion Pictures	2.3	2.3	2.1	0.0	9.5
Health Services	7.7	7.8	7.2	-1.3	6.9
Legal Services	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Social Services	3.1	3.1	3.0	0.0	3.3
Government	55.7	55.0	55.0	1.3	1.3
Total Federal Government	7.2	7.2	6.9	0.0	4.4
Total State Government	13.3	13.0	13.4	2.3	-0.8
Total Local Government	35.2	34.8	34.7	1.2	1.4
CASPER (Natrona County)					
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	27.3	27.6	26.1	-1.1 %	4.6 %
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	5.2	5.3	4.7	-1.9	10.6
Manufacturing	1.6	1.6	1.3	0.0	23.1
Mining	2.3	2.3	2.2	0.0	4.6
Oil & Gas Extraction	2.2	2.2	2.1	0.0	4.8
Construction	1.3	1.4	1.2	-7.1	8.3
TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	22.1	22.3	21.4	-0.9	3.3
Transportation & Public Utilities	1.7	1.7	1.6	0.0	6.3
Transportation	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Communications & Public Utilities	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.0	16.7
Trade	7.7	7.9	7.5	-2.5	2.7
Wholesale Trade	2.1	2.1	2.1	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	5.6	5.8	5.4	-3.5	3.7
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
Services	6.2	6.3	5.8	-1.6	6.9
Personal & Business Services	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
Health Services	2.0	2.0	1.8	0.0	11.1
Government	5.1	5.0	5.1	2.0	0.0

1 Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers in non-agricultural establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employeds, domestic servants and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. 2 Subject to revision. 3 Revised figures.

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PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, $300

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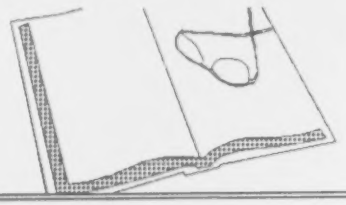
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB-449

U.S.MAIL

For
QUALIFIED WORKERS
Call
Job Service
of Wyoming

Wyoming

Labor Market Information



W Y O M I N G

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

The **Wyoming Labor Force Trends** is published by the Research and Analysis Section of the Wyoming Employment Security Commission.

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